THE FORM OF

CONSECRATING ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, AND CHURCH-YARD,

On Monday the 22d of September, 1794.

BY

THE RIGHT REV. HENRY REGINALD LORD BISHOP OF BRISTOL.

THE CORPORATION ATTENDING AS PATRONS:

JAMES MORGAN, *Esq. Mayor.*

CHARLES YOUNG, *Esq.*
JOHN PAGE, *Esq.* } Sheriffs.

Rev. J. A. SMALL, D. D. Minister.

BRISTOL:

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M.DCC.XCIV.

BRITISH MUSEUM

THE FORM OF

CONSECRATING A CHURCH.

THE Biſhop is to be received at the Weſt door, or at ſome other part of the Church or Church-yard, which is moſt convenient for his entrance by ſome of the principal Inhabitants.

At the place where the Biſhop is received, a Petition is to be delivered to him by ſome one of the perſons who receive him, praying that he will Conſecrate the Church, and Church-yard.

The Petition is to be read by the Regiſter.

The Biſhop, his Chaplains, the Preacher, and the Miniſter who is to read Divine Service, together with the reſt of the Clergy, if any other be preſent, enter the Church at the Weſt Door, and go up the middle Aiſle to the Communion Table, repeating the 24th Pſalm alternately, as they go up, the Biſhop one Verſe, and they another.

PSALM XXIV.

1. THE Earth is the Lord's, and all that therein is: the compaſs of the World, and they that dwell therein.

2. For he hath founded it upon the Seas, and prepared it upon the Floods.

3. Who ſhall aſcend into the Hill of the Lord, or who ſhall riſe up in his holy Place?

4. Even he that hath clean Hands and a pure Heart: and hath not lift up his mind unto Vanity, nor ſworn to deceive his Neighbour.

5. He ſhall receive the Bleſſing from the Lord: and Righteouſneſs from the God of his Salvation.

6. This is the Generation of them that ſeek him: even of them that ſeek thy Face, O Jacob.

7. Lift up your Heads, O ye Gates, and be ye lift up, ye everlaſting Doors: and the King of Glory ſhall come in.

8. Who is the King of Glory? It is the Lord, ſtrong and mighty, even the Lord mighty in Battle.

9. Lift up your Heads, O ye Gates, and be ye lift up, ye everlaſting Doors, and the King of Glory ſhall come in.

10. Who is the King of Glory? even the Lord of Hosts, he is the King of Glory.

The Bishop and his Chaplains go within the Rails: the Bishop to the North Side of the Communion Table, and the Chaplains to the South Side; the Minister officiating to the Reading Desk, and the Preacher to some convenient Seat near the Pulpit.

The Bishop, sitting in his Chair, is to have the Instrument or Instruments of Donation and Endowment presented to him by the Patron, or some proper Substitute, which he lays upon the Communion Table, and then standing up, and turning to the Congregation, says,

DEARLY beloved in the Lord; forasmuch as devout and holy Men, as well under the Law, as under the Gospel, moved either by the secret Inspiration of the Blessed Spirit, or by the express Command of God, or by their own Reason, and Sense of the natural Decency of Things, have erected Houses for the public Worship of God, and separated them from all profane and common Uses, in order to fill Men's Minds with greater Reverence for his glorious Majesty, and affect their Hearts with more Devotion and Humility in his Service; which pious Works have been approved and graciously accepted by our heavenly Father: Let us not doubt, but he will also favourably approve our godly Purpose, of setting apart this Place, in solemn Manner, to the Performance of the several

veral Offices of Religious Worſhip, and let us faithfully and devoutly beg his Bleſſing on this our Undertaking.

Then the Biſhop kneeling, ſays the following Prayer:

O ETERNAL God, mighty in Power, and of Majeſty incomprehenſible, whom the Heaven of Heavens cannot contain, much leſs the Walls of Temples made with Hands, and who yet haſt been graciouſly pleaſed to promiſe thy eſpecial Preſence in whatever Place even two or three of thy faithful Servants ſhall aſſemble in thy Name, to offer up their Praiſes and Supplications unto thee; Vouchſafe, O Lord, to be preſent with us, who are here gathered together with all Humility and Readineſs of Heart, to Conſecrate this Place to the Honour of thy great Name; Separating it, from henceforth, from all unhallowed, ordinary, and common uſes, and dedicating it to thy Service, for reading thy Holy Word, for celebrating thy Holy Sacraments, for offering to thy glorious Majeſty the Sacrifices of Prayer and Thankſgiving, for Bleſſing thy People in thy Name, and for the Performance of all other holy Ordinances; Accept, O Lord, this Service at our Hands, and bleſs it with ſuch Succeſs, as may tend moſt to thy Glory, and the Furtherance of our Happineſs, both Temporal and Spiritual, through Jeſus Chriſt our Bleſſed Lord and Saviour. Amen.

After

After this, the Biſhop ſtands up, and turning his Face toward the Congregation, ſays,

REGARD, O Lord, the Supplications of thy Servants, and grant that whoſoever ſhall be dedicated to thee in this Houſe by Baptiſm, may be ſanctified with the Holy Ghoſt, delivered from thy Wrath and Eternal Death, and received as a living Member of Chriſt's Church, and may ever remain in the Number of thy faithful and elect Children. Amen.

GRANT, O Lord, that they who at this Place ſhall, in their own Perſons, renew the Promiſes and Vows made by their Sureties for them at their Baptiſm, and thereupon ſhall be confirmed by the Biſhop, may receive ſuch a Meaſure of thy Holy Spirit, that they may be enabled faithfully to fulfil the ſame and grow in Grace unto their Lives End. Amen.

GRANT, O Lord, that whoſoever ſhall receive in this Place the Bleſſed Sacrament of the Body and Blood of Chriſt, may come to that Holy Ordinance with Faith, Charity, and true Repentance; and being filled with thy Grace and heavenly Benediction, may to their great and endleſs Comfort, obtain Remiſſion of their Sins, and all other Benefits of his Paſſion. Amen.

GRANT, O Lord, that by thy Holy Word which ſhall be read and preached in this Place, and by thy Holy Spirit grafting it inwardly in the Heart, the Hearers thereof may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and may have Power and Strength to fulfil the ſame. Amen.

GRANT, O Lord, that whoſoever ſhall be joined together in this Place in the Holy Eſtate of Matrimony, may faithfully perform and keep the Vow and Covenant betwixt them made, and may remain in perfect Love together unto their Lives End. Amen.

GRANT, we beſeech thee, bleſſed Lord, that whoſoever ſhall draw near unto thee in this Place to give thee Thanks for the Benefits which they have received at thy Hands, to ſet forth thy moſt worthy Praiſe, to confeſs their Sins unto thee, and to aſk ſuch things as are requiſite and neceſſary, as well for the Body as the Soul, may do it with ſuch Steadfaſtneſs of Faith, and ſuch Seriouſneſs, Affection, and Devotion of Mind, that thou mayeſt accept their bounded Duty and Service, and vouchſafe to give whatever in thy infinite Wiſdom thou ſhalt ſee to be moſt expedient for them: All which we beg for Jeſus Chriſt his ſake, our Bleſſed Lord and Saviour. Amen.

The Biſhop ſitting in his Chair.

THEN the Sentence of Conſecration is to be read by the Chancellor, and ſigned by the Biſhop, and by him ordered to be regiſtered, and then laid upon the Communion Table.

After this, the Perſon appointed is to read the Service for the Day, except where it is otherwiſe directed.

PROPER PSALMS FOR THE DAY,

ARE THE 84th—122—and 132 PSALMS.

PSALM 84.—*Quam dilecta!*

O HOW amiable are thy dwellings: thou Lord of hoſts!

2. My ſoul hath a deſire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord: my heart and my fleſh rejoice in the living God.

3. Yea, the ſparrow hath found her an houſe, and the ſwallow a neſt, where ſhe may lay her young: even thy altars, O Lord of hoſts, my King and my God.

4. Bleſſed are they that dwell in thy houſe: they will be always praiſing thee.

5. Bleſſed is the man whoſe ſtrength is in thee: in whoſe heart are thy ways.

6. Who, going through the vale of miſery, uſe it for a well: and the pools are filled with water.

7. They will go from ſtrength to ſtrength: and unto the God of Gods appeareth every one of them in Sion.

8. O Lord God of hoſts, hear my prayer: hearken, O God of Jacob.

9. Behold, O God, our defender: and look upon the face of thine anointed.

10. For one day in thy courts is better than a thouſand.

11. I had rather be a door keeper in the houſe of my God, than to dwell in the tents of ungodlineſs.

12. For the Lord God is a light and defence: the Lord will give grace and worſhip: and no good thing ſhall he with-hold from them that live a godly life.

13. O Lord God of hoſts: bleſſed is the man that putteth his truſt in thee.

PSALM 122.—*Lætatus ſum.*

I WAS glad when they ſaid unto me, We will go into the houſe of the Lord.

2. Our feet ſhall ſtand in thy gates: O Jeruſalem.

3. Jeruſalem is built as a city: that is at unity in itſelf.

4. For

4. For thither the tribes go up, even the tribes of the Lord: to teſtify unto Iſrael, to give thanks unto the name of the Lord.

5. For there is the ſeat of judgment: even the ſeat of the houſe of David.

6. O pray for the peace of Jeruſalem: they ſhall proſper that love thee.

7. Peace be within thy walls: and plenteouſneſs within thy palaces.

8. For my brethren and companions' ſakes: I will wiſh thee proſperity.

9. Yea, becauſe of the houſe of the Lord our God: I will ſeek to do thee good.

PSALM 132.—*Memento, Domine.*

LORD, remember David, and all his trouble;

2. How he ſware unto the Lord: and vowed a vow unto the Almighty God of Jacob;

3. I will not come within the tabernacle of mine houſe: nor climb up into my bed;

4. I will not ſuffer mine eyes to ſleep, nor mine eye-lids to ſlumber: neither the temples of my head to take any reſt;

5. Until I find out a place for the temple of the Lord: an habitation for the mighty God of Jacob.

6. Lo,

6. Lo, we heard of the ſame at Ephrata: and found it in the wood.

7. We will go into his tabernacle: and fall low on our knees before his footſtool.

8. Ariſe, O Lord, into thy reſting place: thou, and the ark of thy ſtrength.

9. Let thy prieſts be clothed with righteouſneſs: and let thy ſaints ſing with joyfulneſs.

10. For thy ſervant David's ſake: turn not away the preſence of thine Anointed.

11. The Lord hath made a faithful oath unto David: and he ſhall not ſhrink from it;

12. Of the fruit of thy body: ſhall I ſet upon thy ſeat.

13. If thy children will keep my covenant, and my teſtimonies that I ſhall learn them: their children alſo ſhall ſit upon thy ſeat for evermore.

14. For the Lord hath choſen Sion to be an habitation for himſelf: he hath longed for her.

15. This ſhall be my reſt for ever: here will I dwell, for I have a delight therein.

16. I will bleſs her victuals with increaſe: and will ſatisfy her poor with bread.

17. I

17. I will deck her prieſts with health: and her ſaints ſhall rejoice and ſing.

18. There ſhall I make the horn of David to flouriſh: I have ordained a lantern for mine Anointed.

19. As for his enemies, I ſhall clothe them with ſhame: but upon himſelf ſhall his crown flouriſh.

Firſt Leſſon, I. Kings, viii. c. from v. 22, incluſive to 62.

Second Leſſon, Hebrews x. c. from v. 19, incluſive to 26.

After the Collect for the Day, the Miniſter who reads the Service ſtops till the Biſhop hath ſaid the following Prayer.

O MOST Bleſſed Saviour, who by thy gracious Preſence at the Feaſt of Dedication didſt approve and honour ſuch religious Services as this which we are now performing unto thee; be preſent at this Time with us alſo, by thy Holy Spirit; and becauſe Holineſs becometh thine Houſe for ever, ſanctify us we pray thee, that we may be living Temples, holy and acceptable unto thee; and ſo dwell in our Hearts by Faith, and poſſeſs our Souls by thy Grace, that nothing which defileth may enter into us; but that being cleanſed from all carnal and corrupt Affections, we may ever be devoutly given to ſerve thee in all good Works, who art our Saviour, Lord, and God, bleſſed for evermore. Amen.

Then

Then the Miniſter proceeds in the Service of the Day to the end of the General Thankſgiving; after which, the Biſhop ſays the following Prayer.

BLESSED be thy Name, O Lord, that it hath pleaſed thee to put it into the Hearts of thy Servants to erect this Houſe to thy Honour and Worſhip. Bleſs, O Lord, them, their Families, and Subſtance, and accept the Work of their Hands; remember them concerning this, wipe not out this kindneſs that they have ſhewed for the Houſe of their God, and the Offices thereof, and grant that all who ſhall enjoy the Benefit of this pious Work, may ſhew forth their Thankfulneſs by making a right uſe of it, to the Glory of thy bleſſed Name, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. Amen.

Then the Miniſter who officiates is to go on with the Prayer of St. Chryſoſtom *and the* Grace of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt.

(☞ For the Pſalms appointed to be ſung ſee the laſt page.)

COMMUNION

COMMUNION SERVICE.

THE Biſhop ſtanding on the North Side of the Communion Table as before reads the Communion Service.

After the Collect for the King he ſays the following Prayer.

O MOST glorious Lord God, we acknowledge that we are not worthy to offer unto thee any thing belonging to us; yet we beſeech thee, in thy great Goodneſs graciouſly to accept the Dedication of this Place to thy Service, and to proſper this our undertaking; Receive the Prayers and Interceſſions of us, and all other thy Servants, who either now or hereafter entering into this Houſe, ſhall call upon thee; and give both them and us Grace to prepare our Hearts to ſerve thee with Reverence and godly Fear, affect us with an Awful Apprehenſion of thy divine Majeſty, and a deep Senſe of our own Unworthineſs; that ſo approaching thy Sanctuary with Lowlineſs and Devotion, and coming before thee, with clean Thoughts and pure Hearts, with Bodies undefiled, and Minds ſanctified, we may always perform a Service acceptable to thee, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. Amen.

The

The two Chaplains are to read one the Epiſtle, and the other the Goſpel.

The Epiſtle, 2. Cor. vi. 14. incluſive to v. 18 incluſive.
The Goſpel, St. John, chap. ii. v. 13 to v. 17 incluſive.

Then the Biſhop reads the Nicene Creed, *after which a Pſalm is ſung, viz. Pſalm* C.

THE SERMON.

The Sermon being ended, and all who do not receive the Holy Communion retired and the Doors ſhut; the Biſhop proceeds in the Communion Service; and he and the Clergy having made their Oblations, the Church-wardens collect the Offerings of the reſt of the Congregation.

After the Communion, and immediately before the final Bleſſing, the Biſhop ſays the following Prayer.

BLESSED be thy Name, O Lord God, for that it pleaſeth thee to have thy Habitation among the Sons of Men, and to dwell in the midſt of the Aſſembly of the Saints upon Earth; Bleſs we beſeech thee, the religious Performance of this Day; and grant that in this Place, now ſet apart to thy Service, thy Holy Name may

may be Worſhipped in Truth and Purity to all Generations, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. Amen.

The peace of God, which paſſeth all underſtanding, keep your Hearts and Minds in the Knowledge and Love of God, and of his Son Jeſus Chriſt our Lord: and the Bleſſing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghoſt, be amongſt you, and remain with you always. Amen.

Conſecration of a Church-Yard, together with the Church.

WHEN the Service in the Church is finiſhed, the Biſhop, Clergy, and People, proceed to the Church-yard; and the Biſhop ſtanding in the Place prepared for the Performance of the Office there, the Act or Sentence of Conſecration is read by the Chancellor, and ſigned by the Biſhop, and ordered to be regiſtered.

After which, the Biſhop ſays the following Prayer.

O GOD, who has taught us in thy Holy Word, that there is a Difference between the Spirit of a Beaſt that goeth downwards to the Earth, and the Spirit of a Man which aſcendeth up to

God who gave it; and likewiſe by the Example of thy holy Servants in all Ages, has taught us to aſſign peculiar Places where the Bodies of thy Saints may reſt in Peace, and be preſerved from all Indignities, whilſt their Souls are ſafely kept in the Hands of their faithful Redeemer. Accept, we beſeech thee, this charitable Work of our's, in ſeparating this Portion of Ground to that good Purpoſe; and give us Grace, that, by the frequent Inſtances of Mortality which we behold, we may learn, and ſeriouſly conſider how frail and uncertain our Condition here on Earth is, and ſo number our Days, as to apply our Hearts unto Wiſdom: that, in the midſt of Life thinking upon Death, and daily preparing ourſelves for the Judgment that is to follow, we may have our part in the Reſurrection to eternal Life, with him who died for our Sins, and roſe again for our Juſtification, and now liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghoſt, one God, World without End. Amen.

The Grace of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, and the Love of God, and the Fellowſhip of the Holy Ghoſt, be with us all evermore.—Amen.

PSALMS.

PSALM CXXII.

Set to Muſic by R. BRODERIP.

O 'Twas a joyful ſound to hear
Our tribes devoutly ſay,
Up, Iſr'el: to the temple haſte,
And keep your feſtal day.
2. At Salem's court we muſt appear
With our aſſembled pow'rs;
3. In ſtrong and beauteous order rang'd,
Like her united tow'rs.
4. 'Tis thither by divine command,
The tribes of God repair,
Before his ark to celebrate
His name with praiſe and pray'r.
5. Tribunals ſtand erected there,
Where equity takes place,
There ſtand the courts and palaces
Of royal David's race.
O pray we then for Salem's peace,
For they ſhall proſp'rous be,
(Thou holy city of our God!)
Who bear true love to thee.
7. May peace within thy ſacred walls
A conſtant gueſt be found,
With plenty and proſperity
Thy palaces be crown'd.
8. For my dear brethren's ſake, and friends,
No leſs than brethren dear,
I'll pray—May peace in Salem's tow'rs
A conſtant gueſt appear.
9. But moſt of all I'll ſeek thy good,
And ever wiſh thee well,
For Sion and the temple's ſake,
Where God vouchſafes to dwell.

PSALM XXVI.

SOLO.

Set to Muſic by R. BRODERIP.

6. I'LL waſh my hands in innocence,
And bring a heart ſo pure,
That when thy altar I approach,
My welcome ſhall ſecure,

CHORUS.

7 8. My thanks I'll publiſh there, and tell
How thy renown excels:
That ſeat affords me moſt delight
In which thy honour dwells.

GLORIA PATRI.

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghoſt,
The God whom earth and heav'n adore,
Be glory, as it was of old,
Is now, and ſhall be evermore.

PSALM C.

ALL people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.
Him ſerve with fear, his praiſe forth tell.
Come ye before him and rejoice.
2. The Lord ye know is God indeed,
Without our aid he did us make;
We are his flock, he doth us feed,
And for his ſheep he doth us take.
3. O enter then his gates with praiſe,
Approach with joy his courts unto.
Praiſe, laud, and bleſs his Name always,
For it is ſeemly ſo to do.
4. For why! the Lord our God is good,
His mercy is for ever ſure:
His truth at all times firmly ſtood,
And ſhall from age to age endure.

FINIS.

15 JY 64